

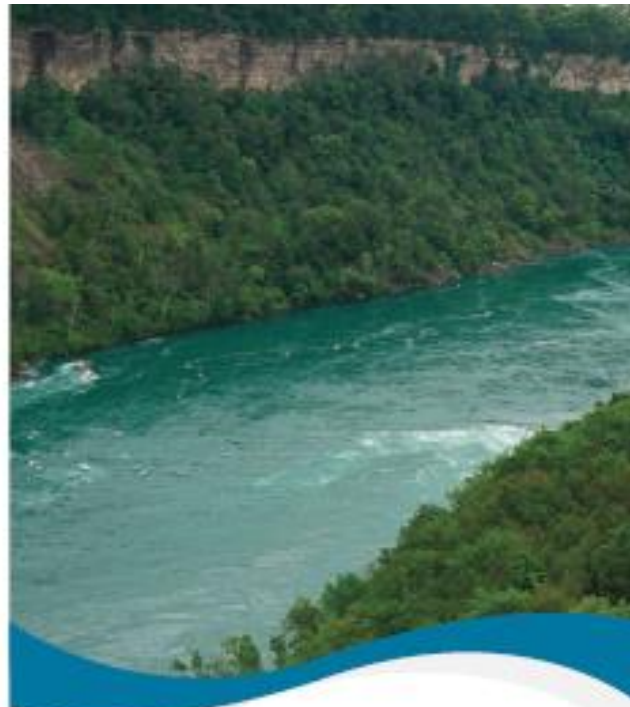
WHY DO WE HAVE A RAP?

In the early part of the 20th century, the Niagara River was one of the most degraded places in North America. The Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, which commits both countries to work together to improve the condition of the Great Lakes, called for the development of cleanup plans for numerous Great Lakes locations, including the Niagara River.

With the involvement of various groups and concerned citizens (like you), the Niagara River is on the road to recovery!

Since 1987, efforts focused on reducing pollutants being discharged, creating fish and wildlife habitat, implementing important monitoring programs, and changing the way we use water are helping us achieve the goal of removing the Niagara River from the list of Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOCs).

Learn more about our Niagara River's vibrant ecosystem on our website.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Funding for this project is provided by the Federal Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario in partnership with the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.



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WHERE IS WORK DONE?

Restoration actions are focused on the waters of the Niagara River, extending from the mouth of Lake Erie to Lake Ontario. The area of land that drains into the Niagara River (AOC watershed) is not part of the AOC but is recognized as having a potential impact on the river. Some efforts are targeted in the watershed, when needed.

While the Niagara River Area of Concern shares its border with the United States, there are separate cleanup plans on both sides of the river. Our RAP initiative focuses on the Ontario side of the AOC only.



WHAT IS THE RAP AND WHO IS INVOLVED?

The Remedial Action Plan (RAP) is a locally-developed cleanup plan developed to protect, restore, and enhance the Niagara River ecosystem with the goal of removing it from the list of Great Lakes AOCs.

The RAP involves a partnership between the federal and provincial government, municipalities, environmental groups, industry, non-government organizations, and concerned citizens working together to improve the Niagara River.

HOW DO WE MEASURE PROGRESS?

A set of 14 ecosystem indicators related to the use and enjoyment of water is used to determine the health of the Niagara River. For example: having waters free of excess algae, habitat for fish/wildlife, and clean water for swimming or fishing.

When something interferes with the use and enjoyment of water, it's called a beneficial use impairment or BUI. The RAP completes various actions to restore BUIs in the Niagara River.



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