

Ontario **OUT** of **DOORS** 2016 **Fishing** Annual

BEST IN NEW GEAR
FISHING FOR THE LATEST RODS, REELS, LURES, AND LINE PG.74



Exclusive report for
OFAH members inside



ONTARIO OUT OF DOORS

Ontario OUT of DOORS (OOD) is Canada's best read outdoors magazine. Since 1968, OOD has been the go-to source for anglers and hunters looking for fishing and hunting tips and tactics, the latest outdoor gear, DIY, cooking, and travel information. In 2016, OOD continued to establish itself as the place to go for outdoors news in Ontario. Visit www.oodmag.com and join the ever-growing list of digital subscribers.

YouTube



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INVESTING IN STUDENTS AND SCIENCE

We are committed to supporting students who are trying to get their start in fish and wildlife management. The Federation hosted dozens of student employees, including the OFAH/BrokerLink Fish & Wildlife Conservation Intern, and awarded scholarships like the OFAH/Mike Reader/Toronto Sportsmen's Show/Fleming College Scholarship to deserving Fish & Wildlife students.

Did you know? The OFAH and partners awarded \$23,000 in grant support to student research projects in 2016.



SUPPORTING COMMUNITY HATCHERIES

The OFAH invested in 12 different community hatcheries that were raising fish for public waters. The investments were marked for the purchase of things like trap nets, incubation trays, fish tanks, net pens and pumps to improve fish production. In addition to direct funding, the OFAH also takes a lead role in the delivery of the OFAH-MNRF Community Hatchery Program. Our continued investment in community hatcheries is a reflection of the enormous benefits they provide to Ontario's anglers every year.



Want more information? Visit www.communityhatcheries.com



ONTARIO FAMILY FISHING EVENTS Each year, OFFE provides province-wide opportunities for Canadian residents to fish licence-free on Ontario waters -- in 2016 there were close to 100 summer and winter fishing events organized under the OFFE umbrella. The goal of the program is to encourage people of all ages to try fishing, no matter the time of year. For more information on OFFE, visit www.ontariofamilyfishing.com.

HOST: MIKE MILLER



ANGLER & HUNTER TV

It was announced in late 2016 that CITY has picked up Angler & Hunter TV and will air the program coast-to-coast throughout the 2017 season. Visit www.ahtv.com for more details.



CONNECT WITH AHTV

ON TARGET: NASP CONTINUES TO GROW

In 2016, the OFAH was pleased to expand the presence of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) across the province. Through funding from the Government of Ontario, NASP was able to provide free archery instruction for hundreds of youth at a number of schools. Through 2016 and into 2017, this funding will help the OFAH introduce archery to 120 schools and 12,000 students in Ontario.



You can learn more about NASP by visiting www.ofah.org/nasp



FIGHTING INVASIVE SPECIES

Since 1992, the OFAH has partnered with the MNRF to deliver the Invading Species Awareness Program, and in 2016, the OFAH continued to lead the fight against invasive species in Ontario. Nowhere was this more evident than ISAP's efforts to eradicate the invasive aquatic plant Water Soldier. The Federation also supported the enactment of the first stand-alone invasive species legislation in Canada, Ontario's Invasive Species Act, as another important tool for preventing the introduction and spread of invasive species.



For more information or to report an invasive species sighting, visit www.invadingspecies.com

A&H RADIO The 6th season of Angler & Hunter Radio with host Randy Jennings went to air, with 27 great episodes, on select Ontario radio stations. If you missed a show you can listen to the podcast that is included with each show description at www.ahradio.ca.



WOMEN'S OUTDOOR WEEKEND The OFAH is proud to deliver this program, tailored toward women who are interested in hunting and fishing. In September, WOW welcomed 80 enthusiastic women to participate in a weekend full of activities in the great outdoors. Visit www.ofah.org/wow.



CHALLENGING CRIME STOPPERS

In September, London-Elgin-Middlesex Crime Stoppers placed a couple of billboards in the Strathroy area that unfairly targeted legal firearms owners. Through formal letters, phone calls and social media, the OFAH called for the offensive message to be removed, and within days it was. The power of people and social media helped right a wrong in this case.



OFAH social media reached more than 100,000 online users in leading the campaign to have the billboards removed.

INTRODUCING ALUS

The OFAH welcomed ALUS Peterborough as our newest conservation program in 2016. This program will work with the farming community to deliver and maintain voluntary conservation projects on agricultural lands. Projects will create and restore wetlands, plant windbreaks, establish buffers and manage sustainable drainage systems to offer ecological goods and services such as reducing soil erosion, improving water quality, wildlife habitat enhancement and climate change mitigation.



ONTARIO ANGLER AWARDS

This program continues to recognize Ontario anglers for their great catches. If you catch one of the accepted species, in season, in a waterbody in Ontario and take its measurement -- submit to Angler Awards and get some recognition. Many new entries were added to www.ontarioanglerswards.com in 2016.





SUNDAY GUN HUNTING

Sunday gun hunting in Southern Ontario has been, and continues to be a significant OFAH success story. Since its inception in September 2005, the number of municipalities that permit Sunday gun hunting in Southern Ontario has grown to 177 (indicated in yellow on the map). In 2016, OFAH efforts resulted in six new additions: Township of Seguin, Southwold, McDougall, Perth-East, Hamilton Township and Wellington North.

Find more details on Sunday gun hunting at www.ofah.org/sgh

DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF HUNTERS

Threats to our hunting future come in many different forms. When a wind turbine company in south-western Ontario advised landowners to prohibit hunting on their own properties, the OFAH, along with Delta Waterfowl, stepped in to speak up for hunters. With the help of our members on the ground, we monitor issues and lend our support whenever possible to stand up for hunters' rights and ensure we don't lose access to hunting opportunities.

Learn more about lands and access issues in Ontario by visiting www.ofah.org/landsaccess



GET OUTDOORS CAMPS Every year hundreds of youth across the province put down their cell phones, video games, and turn off their TVs to experience the most exciting program in Ontario, and 2016 was no different. This program provided an alternative to digital entertainment, by putting an emphasis on our traditional outdoor recreational activities. For more information, visit www.getoutdoors.org.



OFAH | MARIO CORTELLUCCI HUNTING & FISHING HERITAGE CENTRE

Education has always been a big part of OFAH action and the Heritage Centre provides a unique place for conservation success stories to proudly live on and be shared with generations, young and old. In 2016, nearly 7,000 people from across the province visited the Heritage Centre. Those visitors included youth, families, school classes, birthday parties and corporate events. Visit www.hfhc.ca



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