

# Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 30, 2006**

## **CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES DEMONSTRATE HOW TO PROTECT WATER USING STEWARDSHIP PRACTICES**

NEWMARKET (June 27, 2006) – Six Conservation Authorities are partnering with farmers and other agencies to demonstrate how environmental farming practices can be cost efficient *and* help to protect water in Ontario.

In a joint partnership, the governments of Canada and Ontario are providing \$628,400 through the Technical Assistance component of the Greencover Canada initiative to support a variety of farm projects that offer environmental and economic benefits to farmers. In Ontario, \$15 million has been allocated under Greencover Canada until April 1, 2008. This program is delivered by Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA). Conservation Ontario is a partner in Greencover Canada.

Located on farms and in natural areas throughout Ontario, these projects will demonstrate traditional and new environmental farm practices that improve and protect water quality and quantity, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and control erosion. Some of the beneficial management practices that will be demonstrated include:

- constructed wetlands
- vegetated riparian buffer strips
- shelterbelts
- remote watering systems
- buffer establishment
- improved stream crossings
- fencing to manage grazing  
& improve riparian conditions

Conservation Authorities are leading four of the ten projects and partnering with farmers and other agencies such as Ontario Soil and Crop Association, municipalities, Federation of Agriculture, Ontario Wetland Habitat, Ministry of Natural Resources, Stewardship Councils and others.

The projects begin this year and continue until March 31, 2008. Funding for this initiative is provided through the federal government's Agricultural Policy Framework.

- 30 -

For more information:

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