

Thames Talbot Land Trust

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Working together to leave a legacy of healthy landscapes

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Conservation Supporters Rally to Save Joany's Woods

Canadians are opening their hearts and their wallets to save our remaining natural areas. In the six weeks since the Campaign to Save Joany's Woods was announced several major funding commitments have been received by the Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT). Leading the way is the Ivey Natural Lands Legacy which will match every dollar raised through the campaign towards the goal of \$660,000. The HIVA Foundation of Toronto has contributed \$10,000 and the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation has pledged \$15,000. The McIlwraith Field Naturalists of London are providing \$94,000 from the Helen and Spencer Inch Bequest to protect Joany's Woods forever.

Joany's Woods is one of the remaining natural gems in Middlesex County. The nearly 400 acre site on the Ausable River near Sylvan has been a favourite spot for hikers and nature lovers for many years until the recent death of its owner placed the property on the open market. There was great concern within the conservation community that the property might be sold for development or logging until the Thames Talbot Land Trust came forward and negotiated an agreement to purchase the property from the estate.

"Carolinian woodlots are a valuable resource and other forests in the area are being heavily harvested. We need the public's help to leave a natural legacy for our children to enjoy." said Don Gordon, the Land Trust's Executive Director. "We'll be conducting public tours this Spring and Summer so people can see for themselves why these woods must be saved." To learn more about the tours, Joany's Woods and how you can help save them, visit the TTLT's website www.ttl.ca or call (519) 858-3442.

The Thames Talbot Land Trust is a registered charity established in 2000 to provide permanent protection for lands and waters of natural, agricultural and cultural significance throughout the Thames Talbot region. Its growing network of nature preserves and conservation easements are complemented by educational and research activities.

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See also attached photo JW ABCA 3.jpg
(photo credit Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority)

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