

Project Profile

Bearss Drain 2007 West Branch West Urban Drain, Section 78, Drainage Report

Client: Municipality of Port Colborne



Drain Pre-Construction

During the design phase, there were a number of issues that had to be considered including Species at Risk and shallow bedrock. Landowners and Environmental Review Agencies were consulted during the design phase as we worked together to develop a solution acceptable to everyone.

The construction phase was done between the winter and summer cottage season to reduce the impact of construction activities on cottage residents.



Drain Post-Construction

K. Smart Associates was retained by the Municipality of Port Colborne to prepare a Section 78 drainage report for the Bearss Drain. The Bearss Drain is a 85± hectare (210± acre) along the Lake Erie shoreline. The drain was constructed in the 1900's and there had been no maintenance activities since 1979.

An existing dune separates the lands on the north of the watershed from the Lake. Cottages are located along the dune and to the north of the dune. Prior to construction of the drain, the cottages to the north of the dune frequently flooded during the spring.



Working between two cottages

The construction included 163m of 900mm diameter concrete pipe, 308m of ditch clean-out, a stamped concrete outlet structure, 30m³ of bedrock and reinforcement of existing pipe in 35 working days.

Some of the difficulties that had to be overcome during construction included working around existing structures, watermains and a gasmain. Construction work often took place in tight areas, including between two cottages as shown in the photo above.